



BILLING CODE 6717-01-P
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC

Docket No. CP15-527-000

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
NEW YORK BAY EXPANSION PROJECT

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this environmental assessment for the New York Bay Expansion Project (Project) proposed by Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) in the above-referenced docket. Transco requests authorization to construct, replace, and operate natural gas pipeline facilities located in Chester County, Pennsylvania, Richmond County, New York, and Middlesex and Essex Counties, New Jersey. This Project would enable Transco to modify existing facilities and replace existing pipeline to transport an additional 115 million cubic feet of natural gas per day.

The Project would involve the following activities at existing aboveground facilities in the specified towns and municipalities:

- Uprate Compressor Station 200 from 30,860 horsepower (hp) to 33,000 hp (East Whiteland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania) and uprate a unit of Compressor Station 303 from 25,000 hp to 27,500 hp (Roseland Borough, Essex County, New Jersey);
- Add 11,000 hp of electric-driven compression to Compressor Station 207 (Old Bridge Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey);
- Install various appurtenances and modifications at three meter and regulation (M&R) stations in East Brandywine Township (Chester County, Pennsylvania), Sayreville Borough (Middlesex County, New Jersey) and Staten Island Borough (Richmond County, New York), including setting up a temporary M&R station during construction in Staten Island Borough.

In addition, Transco proposes to replace three segments of its 42-inch-diameter Lower New York Bay Lateral pipeline, totaling 0.25 mile, and uprate the lateral pipeline's operating pressure from 960 to 1000 pounds per square inch in Middlesex County, New Jersey.

The environmental assessment assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed Project, with

appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The environmental assessment has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public viewing on the FERC's website at www.ferc.gov using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Public Conference Room
888 First Street NE, Room 2A
Washington, DC 20426
(202) 502-8371

Copies of the environmental assessment have been mailed to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; libraries in the Project area; and parties to this proceeding.

Any person wishing to comment on the environmental assessment may do so. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that your comments are properly recorded and considered prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that the FERC receives your comments in Washington, DC on or before **May 4, 2016**.

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the Project docket number (CP15-527-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has dedicated eFiling expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

- (1) You may file your comments electronically by using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov under the link to Documents and Filings. An eComment is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project;
- (2) You may file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov under the link to Documents and Filings. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You will be asked to

select the type of filing you are making. A comment on a particular project is considered a “Comment on a Filing”; or

(3) You may file a paper copy of your comments at the following address:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Although your comments will be considered by the Commission, simply filing comments will not serve to make the commentor a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).¹ Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission’s decision. Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. **You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.**

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission’s Office of External Affairs, at **(866) 208-FERC**, or on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on “General Search,” and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (i.e., CP15-527). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp>.

DATED: April 4, 2016

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

¹ See the previous discussion on the methods for filing comments.

